



SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN

*December
1949*

Miscellany

May we be pardoned, being editorially minded, if we talk about books three Sierra Club members have just produced. John Thomas Howell's *Marin Flora* (U. C. Press, \$4.50), listing 1,452 species and varieties of plants from Marin County, is just off the press. His many friends who have known of the subject have long been waiting for this complete compilation. The format is ideal for a knapsack—flexible and light in weight with condensed type to include a maximum of text. Photographs are by Charles T. Townsend . . . Ansel Adams's *My Camera in Yosemite* (Virginia Adams and Houghton Mifflin, \$10.00), contains 24 plates which represent the acme of both Adams's work in Yosemite and of half-tone reproduction. We understand that the first printing is all but sold out already . . . William H. Brewer's journal, *Up and Down California in 1864*, edited by Francis Farquhar, originally published by Yale in 1930, is back in print. (U. C. Press, \$6.50.) The parts dealing with the California Geological Survey's journeyings in the High Sierra have long been of great interest to Sierrans. Those who do not have it in their library already will be glad of the opportunity to acquire it. Copies of all three may be ordered through the Sierra

Club office. Californians should add the state sales tax.

While we're at it, the following Sierra Club publications are about to appear:

John Muir: Studies in the Sierra, with an Introduction by William E. Colby. Foreword by John P. Buwalda. Ca. 128 pp., boards, \$2.50. Due about January 15.

Index to the Sierra Club Bulletin, 1893-1949. Ca. 112 pp., paper, \$2.50. Due about June 1.

And the long-awaited offset reprinting of volumes I to V of the *Sierra Club Bulletin* (1893-1905 and long out of print). 2,080 pp. per set: after February 1, \$25; before March 1, \$20; single volumes, \$6 and \$5, respectively, while available. Books due early May. Postage per set, 60c. Californians should add the sales tax.

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<i>Photo credit:</i> Cover, Jeffrey pine and snow, by Haven Jorgensen.	

THE SIERRA CLUB, founded in 1892, has devoted itself to the study and protection of national scenic resources, particularly those of the mountain regions of the Pacific Coast. Since these resources receive best protection from those who know them well, the club has long conducted educational activities, under the committees listed below, to make them known. Participation is invited in the program to preserve wilderness, wildlife, forests, and streams.

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Sierra Club Bulletin

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...TO EXPLORE, ENJOY, AND PROTECT THE NATURAL MOUNTAIN SCENE...

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Board of Directors

1. *Meeting Called to Order.* A special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Sierra Club convened at the Law Library, Edison Building, Los Angeles, California, November 12, 1949, at 10:15 a.m. All members of the Board were present except Director Ansel Adams, who was on business in New York and was excused.

Some forty visitors were present throughout most of the meeting, including Honorary Vice-President William E. Colby; E. W. Cunningham, Chairman of the Southern California Chapter; Joe Momyer, Chairman of the Riverside Chapter; Charles Apple, representing the San Francisco Bay Chapter; Cicely Christy, Chairman of the Club Membership Committee; Ralph Mocine and Jack Barnard, Vice-Chairman and Secretary of the Conservation Committee; and Harry James, President of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs.

2. *Minutes of September 4, 1949*

Mr. Colby modestly requested that the reference to additional honors for him be deleted from the minutes of the previous meeting. Upon motion by Robinson, seconded by Kimball and unanimously carried, the deletion was approved. The minutes were approved as amended.

3. *Minutes of September 23, 1949*

Upon motion by Hildebrand, seconded by Brower, the minutes were approved in the mimeographed form distributed by

the Secretary and the action of the Executive Committee was confirmed.

4. *Honorary Chairman of the Board*

Upon motion by Robinson, seconded by Blake and unanimously carried, the position of Honorary Chairman of the Board was established.

5. *William E. Colby*

Upon motion by Kehrlein, seconded by Lipman and unanimously carried, William E. Colby was elected Honorary Chairman of the Board. He thereupon took his chair at the right of the President and thereafter participated fully in the meeting.

6. *Bridge Canyon Dam*

Robinson had just returned from the October 3 meeting of the Advisory Committee to the Secretary of the Interior, of which he is the western member, and summarized the most recent developments with respect to Bridge Canyon Dam. The Advisory Committee had summarized their recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior as follows:

The Committee recommends that the Interior Department initiate amendments to the Grand Canyon Act to:

a. Limit reclamation projects to development of Bridge Canyon Dam not to exceed 2,000 feet elevation.

b. Provide for consolidation of Park and Monument after modifying boundaries along general lines suggested in memorandum by Bestor Robinson.

The Secretary presented the letter of October 21, 1949, from Julius A. Krug, Secretary of the Interior, summarizing the position of the Department of the Interior as follows: (1) The Kanab Diversion project is disapproved. (2) The Bridge Canyon Dam will be held to a maximum water surface of 1,877 feet.

After thorough discussion, upon *motion* by Crowe, seconded by Lipman, the following resolution was unanimously adopted as the policy of the Sierra Club:

RESOLVED, various proposals are now pending for the construction of a dam in the Grand Canyon of the Colorado at Bridge Canyon. The reservoir created by this dam will submerge portions of Grand Canyon National Park and Grand Canyon National Monument. In the event that the appropriate authorities determine that the construction of such dam is economically sound, thorough consideration should be given to minimizing the impact of such dam and reservoir on the scenic and inspirational features preserved for public use in the creation of Grand Canyon National Park and Monument. Legislative action is also necessary to insure that the heart of Grand Canyon will not be invaded by future dams and diversions without express permission of Congress. To accomplish these purposes the Sierra Club recommends:

1. The construction of Bridge Canyon Dam should not be authorized unless necessary prior action has been taken to insure the construction of Glen Canyon and Coconino Dams or equivalent dams on the main stem of the Colorado and on the Little Colorado to prevent siltation of the Bridge Canyon Reservoir. Without such prior construction engineering estimates indicate that the upper forty miles of Bridge Canyon Reservoir will be filled with silt and rendered unusable for public recreation and inspiration in a period of three and one-half years.

2. Prior to authorization of the Bridge Canyon project the Grand Canyon National Park Act should be amended to eliminate the blanket authority vested in the Secretary of the Interior to permit, without congressional approval, the construction of government reclamation projects within Grand Canyon National Park. This will prevent not only the construction of additional dams in Grand Canyon National Park, but will also prevent the diversion of the Colorado River through the so-called Kanab Tunnel, bypassing the central portion of the Grand Canyon.

The administrative decision of the Secretary of the Interior disapproving the Kanab project is subject to change without public notice. This administrative decision should be confirmed by legislative action.

3. Prior to authorization of the Bridge Canyon project Grand Canyon National Monument should be incorporated into Grand Canyon National Park. Certain boundary adjustments of the present Monument area appear desirable. Other adjustments will be necessary to avoid inclusion of the Bridge Canyon Reservoir within the park. To that end it is suggested that the President be authorized to increase the area of Grand Canyon National Park to the extent of the area now included within Grand Canyon National Monument. It is believed that a restudy of the boundaries will result in an easterly extension of the park boundary to include Vasey's Paradise and Redwall Cavern. Such an extension will not interfere with the construction of the proposed Marble Canyon Dam.

4. Bridge Canyon Dam should not be constructed so as to impound water above the highwater level of the Colorado River at the junction of Tapeats Creek. This will prevent an interior penetration of the reservoir into the existing Grand Canyon National Park as distinguished from a narrow marginal flooding of boundary areas.

5. Recognition should be given to the scenic and recreational values of Bridge Canyon Reservoir which can be secured by the maintenance of this reservoir at a stable level. Such a stable level can be achieved by water regulation at Glen Canyon and Coconino Dams. It is suggested that the legislation authorizing the Bridge Canyon project require that so far as practicable Bridge Canyon Reservoir be maintained at a stable level in accordance with an interbureau agreement to be worked out between National Park Service and Bureau of Reclamation.

Subject to the qualifications stated above the Sierra Club approved the construction of Bridge Canyon Dam.

7. San Jacinto Tramway

The Secretary summarized the recent conference in Washington, D.C., between Ashley Browne of Palo Alto; Harlean James of the American Planning and Civic Association; Devereux Butcher, National Parks Association; Frederick Law Olmsted, Honorary Vice-President of the Sierra Club; and Howard Zahniser of

The Wilderness Society. The conference warned concerning the danger of a construction road to assist in the construction of the tramway. Joe Momyer stated that it was his understanding that construction was planned without use of a road. He will watch that phase of it.

The Secretary suggested the revival of the San Jacinto Park Association, a non-profit corporation that was formed over twenty years ago to drive for the creation of the State Park. Leonard pointed out that the Association could be revived as an agency to coordinate the efforts of the many groups interested in protection of the area, that it would have substantial historical background and strength, and would fill a perpetual need for an agency to protect the mountain in a manner similar to the purposes of the Tamalpais Conservation Club and Olympic Park Associates.

It was thereupon *moved* that the Sierra Club participate in the Association upon revival.

8. F. C. Bailey Proposed Gift

F. C. Bailey, a conservationist of Reno, Nevada, and a member for many years of more than twenty conservation organizations throughout the country, is the owner of 639 acres of primeval forest near Big Bear Lake in the Sierra Madre in Section 17, Township 2 North, Range 1 West, S. B. B. & M. In extensive correspondence with Ralph Moline of the Conservation Committee Mr. Bailey had offered to deed the property to the Sierra Club on the general condition that it be kept substantially in primitive condition. The Board of Directors sincerely appreciated the generous offer and were inclined to favor the objective of keeping the area in natural condition, provided the Club could afford the financial obligation of maintaining additional large areas for public use. The President was thereupon authorized to appoint a committee to investigate the matter thoroughly and report back to the next meeting of the Board of Directors. The following committee was thereafter appointed: Bestor Robinson, Chairman; Ar-

thur H. Blake (Conservation Committee); Richard N. Burnley (Lodge Committee).

9. Tioga Road

At the previous meeting of the Board of Directors, September 4, 1949, the Board had approved the improvement of the old Tioga Mine road to standards conforming to the resolution on standards of roads.

Accordingly, a conference was arranged on October 7 to inspect the details of the improvement of the road. In the party were: Thomas Vint, Chief Landscape Architect, NPS; Carl Russell, Superintendent of Yosemite National Park; John Wosky, Assistant Superintendent; Sanford Hill, Landscape Architect, Region IV, NPS; Thomas Carpenter, Assistant Landscape Architect, Region IV; Homer Crowley, Engineer, Region IV, NPS; Harry Tolen, Supervising Engineer, California Region VII, BPR; Harold Bradley, present upon invitation of the Park Service; David R. Brower, for the Sierra Club.

After study on the ground, it was agreed by Vint, for the Park Service; Tolen, for the Bureau of Public Roads; and Brower, speaking for the Sierra Club, that an engineering survey of the realigned Tioga Road should be undertaken to attempt to follow a route from Snow Flat north approximately along the 8,700-foot contour, around the headwaters of Murphy Creek, climbing to a pass at 8,850 feet just north of Polly Dome, thence dropping slightly eastward to Tenaya Summit. The old road would be retained as is to provide access to the Tenaya Lake camp grounds, both north and east of the lake. It was pointed out that funds would probably not be available for any of the realignment for four or five years.

Upon *motion* by Kimball, seconded by Leonard and unanimously carried, the Board recommended the route from Snow Flat across the head of Murphy Creek as agreed to in the conference of October 7.

10. Kings Canyon Road

Funds have been appropriated and allocated for construction of the first unit of the improved highway from Cedar Grove towards Copper Creek on the floor

of the South Fork of the Kings River. Recent newspaper releases and conferences indicate a lack of understanding of a firm plan for minimum development above Cedar Grove. The President was thereupon authorized to appoint a committee to work in coordination with the Conservation Committee to undertake further study and negotiations to obtain definite commitments as to a satisfactory master plan for development within Kings Canyon National Park.

11. Road Standards in National Parks

Brower pointed out that recent conferences on the ground with administrative and engineering personnel of Park Service and Bureau of Public Roads indicated the necessity for more specific examples of satisfactory standards of roads within national parks. The President was thereupon authorized to transmit to the Park Service and the Bureau of Public Roads more specific examples of the meaning of the standards approved by the Sierra Club.

12. Recess

The meeting thereupon recessed at 12:30 and reconvened at 2:18 p.m., all members of the Board were present except Director Adams, a total of approximately thirty-five visitors being also present.

13. Appreciation

A sincere expression of appreciation was recorded for the excellent arrangements made by E. W. Cunningham, Chairman of the Southern California Chapter, and the generosity of Southern California Edison Company in furnishing the use of the excellent facilities at their Law Library for the meeting of the Board. The Secretary was directed to express this appreciation in writing to both parties.

14. San Geronio Primitive Area

The Conservation and the Winter Sports committees were requested to expedite their report on San Geronio planning for action by the Board of Directors prior to the next summer season.

15. Upper Glacier Lodge

The Forest Service order to remove the Upper Glacier Lodge below the Palisade Glacier as being a non-conforming use within the High Sierra Wilderness Area was reconsidered by the Board and no change was made in the views adopted by the Board August 31, 1947, that the Sierra Club would not interfere with any decision of the Forest Service to make the area wilder than it was at the time the boundaries were established.

16. Sierra Club Bulletin, Volumes I to V

Upon motion by Robinson, seconded by Lipman, the Editor was authorized to request prepublication orders for volumes I to V if publication is decided feasible, but without commitment to undertake publication until further decision of the Board.

17. Publications Revolving Fund.

After further discussion this matter was referred to the Treasurer for analysis and report to a later meeting of the Board.

18. California Riding and Hiking Trails

The Board of Directors again expressed support of the proposal to establish riding and hiking trails throughout the state and approved the recommendation of Arthur B. Johnson, the Sierra Club representative on the Advisory Committee to the State Park Commission, that an appropriation of \$89.00 be made by the club to cover the cost of sufficient copies of a new brochure for distribution to the full membership of the Sierra Club.

19. Muir Pilgrimage

A suggestion that the former annual pilgrimage to John Muir's home in Alhambra Valley near Martinez be revived was approved and was referred to the San Francisco Bay Chapter for its participation on behalf of the Sierra Club.

20. John Muir Junior High School

The principal of John Muir Junior High School of Los Angeles had written the Sierra Club, suggesting that because of the school's great interest in John Muir the school would like to participate as a member of the Sierra Club and receive its

publications. The interest of the school was greatly appreciated and the principal was thereupon elected an honorary member of the Sierra Club to the end of the fiscal year 1950-51 with waiver of initiation fees and dues.

21. Lodge Program

The President reported briefly on the completion of the Benson Memorial Hut on the slopes of Mount Anderson. This is a public service project of the Sierra Club, open to the entire public on the same terms as to Club members. The hut is in a fine location for winter touring, five miles from the nearest road, but not in an established primitive or wilderness area. The hut is far removed from routes of summer travel.

The President reported briefly on the extensive alterations of Clair Tappaan Lodge required to meet the health and safety requirements of the public housing authorities. These alterations have progressed with such vigor that the lodge is substantially safer, fire insurance rates are lower, and action thus far is fully in accord with the views of the public authorities.

E. W. Cunningham, Chairman of the Southern California Chapter, reported briefly on the extensive alterations required to comply with health and safety requirements at Harwood Lodge. Conflicting rulings from public health authorities have made the project difficult and have considerably delayed completion. Satisfactory progress is, however, being made, but at substantially increased costs.

Since no report on the Keller Peak hut was available, a full report was requested for the next meeting of the Board. Information in chapter publications indicates that regulations of public housing authorities would be complied with, requiring less concentration of personnel at night until health and safety modifications have been completed.

Brower reported briefly that sites offered by the Squaw Valley Development Corporation were too far from the planned ski hut and trail route to be worthy of consideration at this time. Further negotiations will be undertaken.

22. Colby Gift

The Board discussed and expressed sincere appreciation again for another fine gift from Will Colby to the Sierra Club. This time it consisted of an original Audubon print in color, made in 1847, of High Sierra ground squirrels such as those on the Club property at Tuolumne Meadows. It is well framed for exhibiting from time to time with the many other paintings and other framed material now held by the Club.

23. Mexia Bequest

Will Colby outlined the history of this bequest. Ynes Mexia was an internationally famous botanist who participated in many trips with the Sierra Club and contributed several articles to the *Sierra Club Bulletin*. Upon her death in 1938 she left her property in trust with Colby as executor and trustee, Farquhar alternate. The income from the trust was to be used for the benefit of her two half-sisters. Upon the death of one, the first half of the trust property was to be distributed to the Sierra Club, and upon the death of the other sister the other half was to be distributed to the Save-the-Redwoods League. One sister died recently, making the bequest to the Sierra Club effective as to half of the assets of the trust. It was estimated by Mr. Colby that the securities representing the half interest of the Sierra Club had a present value of approximately \$20,000.

For the purpose of planning, considerable discussion was entered into concerning possible uses for the fund and the manner in which it should be used. It was determined that no action would be taken until the securities had actually been turned over to the Sierra Club.

24. Patron Memberships

The Secretary pointed out that a few cases had arisen recently where substantial gifts had been made by husband and wife to the Sierra Club and that it seemed appropriate in such cases to elect both parties patron members of the Club.

It was thereupon decided that in cases where the amount of the gift would justify patron membership for both parties, the

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spouse of the principal contributor be asked if he or she would like also to be named as a patron, this action to be retro-active as to patron members of the Club already elected.

25. Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee for the April, 1950 election of the Board of Directors was appointed, as follows: Ollo Baldauf, Herbert Breed, Ted Grubb, Harriet Parsons, John Schagen.

Upon discussion Mr. Cunningham stated that he feels that the Executive Committee of the Southern California Chapter can best handle nominations from southern California and hence there is no need to complicate meetings of the committee by having part of them resident in southern California.

26. Judges of Election

The judges of election for April, 1950 were named.

27. National Redwood Forest Corporation

At the meeting of September 23, 1949, the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors had instructed the Conservation Committee to undertake the study of Report No. 5 of the Public Affairs Institute, by Dewey Anderson, entitled "An Action Program for the Redwood Forests," proposing the establishment of a National Redwood Forest Corporation. The Conservation Committee was directed to report to a meeting of the Board of Directors in the fall of 1950. Mr. Blake, as Chairman of the Conservation Committee, announced the following committee to study the program: Jean Barnard, Frank Duveneck, Henry Hall, Harry James, Norman B. Livermore, Jr., and Bestor Robinson.

28. Federation Convention Committee

The President announced the appointment of Cyrus Washburn, former President of the Federation of Western Out-

door Clubs, as chairman of the Sierra Club committee to act as host for the 1950 convention of the Federation at Clair Tappaan Lodge over the Labor Day holidays.

29. Membership

The Secretary reported the total membership of the Sierra Club on November 1, 1949 (after dropping delinquent members whose dues were unpaid October 31, 1949), listing them by chapters as follows:

San Francisco Bay	3507
Southern California	1862
Loma Prieta	444
Mother Lode	212
San Diego	87
Riverside	78
Members not in a chapter	321

Total 6511

30. Date of Next Meeting

Upon motion by Dawson, seconded by Lipman, the next meeting of the board of Directors is to convene at the call of the President, in San Francisco in January or February, 1950, with full travel allowance for directors and chapter chairmen from southern California.

RICHARD M. LEONARD
Secretary

Kings Road Funds Allocated

Construction is expected to start early next year on the long-delayed extension of the road from Cedar Grove to Copper Creek in the Kings Canyon National Park, following the allocation of \$455,100 for the project by the federal government.

Extension would connect directly west of Independence on the west side of the High Sierra and indicates a trend to trans-Sierra roads in that area.

It is estimated the road will cost approximately \$710,000.

—Bridgeport Chronicle Union

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